Southwark Local History Library and Archive

The film and audio collection

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About the film collection

The film collection of Southwark Local History Library and Archive is made up of over 200 titles originating from film, video and born digital, dating from 1899 to present day. The collection reflects the history of the borough of Southwark and contains films that were commissioned by the council shot on 16mm and 35mm film, donated amateur films shot on 8mm film and other donated titles shot on video or digital including off-air broadcasts. We regularly add titles to the collection that are significant to Southwark and welcome donations from the public.

Access

Visitors to Southwark Local History Library and Archive can view any of the films listed in this leaflet in the library for private research and educational use, free of charge on DVD.

Generally, you can just turn up and watch the films on our dedicated TV/DVD unit. Films are not available for loan (though we do welcome loan requests for community events).

What’s Online?

London’s Screen Archives’ website has around half of our collection on line. LSA are the regional network for over 100 archives, museums, libraries and organizations with moving image holdings.

You can view many of the film titles listed here free of charge at:

www.londonsscreenarchives.org.uk

www.youtube.com/user/LondonsScreenArchive

A few of our titles can also be viewed on the BFI Player at http://player.bfi.org.uk/.

Please note the quality of each film will vary. The term ‘film’ is used interchangeably in this leaflet to mean moving image from any original format.
THE FILM COLLECTION

Bermondsey Borough Council Films

The Bermondsey Borough Council made over 30 films between the 1920s and 1940s. Most of the films were made by the Council’s Health Department under the medical direction of Dr Connan who was the Medical Officer for Health for the borough at the time. The films were aimed at improving the health of the borough’s residents, many of whom had died from preventable diseases like diphtheria. The Council were able to show these films in ‘cinemotors’ which, being portable, enabled them to reach a wider audience and communities that would otherwise not have the means to see them. This visual way of getting the message of good health across, was hugely popular with the residents of Bermondsey and set a precedent with other councils across the country, as an effective way of communicating with the public.

The following films can be viewed in the library and other Bermondsey Borough Council films are listed throughout the booklet.

Some Activities of the Bermondsey Borough Council (1931)
The documenting of the Labour run Bermondsey Council’s health information films which pursued programmes to improve public health and welfare of the mainly working class population of the time.
REF: LHLDVD80 / 26 mins / silent

Where There’s Life There’s Soap (1936)
A health information film on the importance of personal hygiene to health. REF: LHLDVD81 / 19 mins / silent

The Empty Bed (1942)
A public information film promoting the importance of immunization against diphtheria. The film dramatises the devastation caused when a mother loses her son to the infection. REF: LHLDVD82 / 17 mins / silent
Oppin (1930)
A Bermondsey Borough Council public health information film about Hop picking which was once a yearly working holiday taken by thousands of residents from the Metropolitan boroughs of Camberwell, Bermondsey and Peckham during the 19th and early 20th Centuries.
REF: LHLDVD191 / 12½ mins / silent

Bermondsey Events of 1937 and 1938
Featuring the exterior and interior of the newly built Spa Road Health Centre, the opening of Silver Street Playground with Ada Salter, and the May Day March of 1938.
REF: LHLDVD83 (or 29) / 13 mins / silent

Help for Russia (1941)
Hundreds of people parade through Bermondsey’s streets to promote British-Soviet unity in the fight against Hitler. REF: LHLDVD101 / 12 mins / silent

May Day (1939)
Rare antifascist march from Bermondsey to Hyde Park. REF: LHLDVD108 / 4 mins / silent

The Shirley Schools (c.1929)
Bermondsey children from The Shirley Schools partaking in outdoor activities, including maypole dancing and obstacle races. The film also shows two of their children who are prepared for leaving the home. Produced by Bermondsey Borough Council.
REF: LHLDVD 7 and 3 (with other films) / 14½ mins / silent

Tower Bridge Road – Pt.2 (Urban Scenes Around Bermondsey) (c.1940s)
The hustle and bustle of Tower Bridge Road market and Southwark Park Road. Featuring employees of Peek Freans exiting the factory at lunch time. REF: LHLDVD27 / 10 mins / silent
Brandon Estate Cine Club films of the 1960s and 70s

The Brandon Estate Cine Club film collection comprises around 23 films originally shot on standard 8mm film. The films were made by Richard Morgan and Brian Waterman, both cine enthusiasts who started the cine club on the Brandon Estate in Walworth, south east London, in the 1960s. The films are a historical record of the resident’s activities on the estate, including the opening of Brandon Library, Christmas entertainments, Summer activities on the estate’s green and their annual trips to Canvey Island.

(Each film is silent and their durations vary being typically between 7 to 16 minutes long.)

*Cine Club outing to Stratford on Avon* (1962); *Cambridge Dance with Nicholas Parsons* (1961); *Children’s party* (c.1961)

Brandon Estate tenants on trip to Stratford-Upon-Avon and a Christmas party for children in the club hall. REF: LHLDVD75 (LSA1486)

*LCC Brandon Estate (Ft. Brandon Library (60s/70s)/Sports Day 1962/The Baby Show* (c.1962)

General views of the estate, children playing, including interiors of Brandon Library
REF: LHLDVD75 (LSA1488)

*Children’s Outing* (1968)

Brandon Estate residents’ trip to Sheerness, Kent. REF: LHLDVD78 and 123 (LSA1504)
Brandon Estate residents' trip to Canvey Island:

Brandon Estate Meets Canvey Island (1964), REF: LHLDVD77, LSA1501
Return to Canvey Island (c.1965), REF: LHLDVD75, LSA1489
Canvey for the Cup (c.1967), REF: LHLDVD75, LSA1490
Canvey 1972, REF: LHLDVD75, LSA1491, Canvey 1973, REF: LHLDVD76, LSA1492
A Day at the Sea (1966), REF: LHLDVD76, LSA1493, original sound
Canvey Capers (1969), REF: LHLDVD77, LSA1502
Sun Fun Canvey (1970), REF: LHLDVD76, LSA1494
The Kanvey Kids: or Wot No Tea Jim! (1971), REF: LHLDVD77, LSA1500

A comedy sketch of the Brandon Estate residents having fun on Canvey Island pleasure beach.

Brandon Estate Summer Fete (1969)
Residents hold fete on estate green, featuring tombola stalls, games, and children’s activities. REF: LHLDVD76 (LSA1495)

Kiddies Xmas Party 1962
Brandon Estate residents hold a Christmas Party for their children.
REF: LHLDVD76 (LSA1496)

Presenting Miss Jan’s Highlights (1966)
Featuring children’s stage show for Brandon Estate residents and Brandon Estate Musical band. REF: LHLDVD76 (LSA1497)

An Old Time Christmas (1965)
A retired citizens’ party. REF: LHLDVD77 (LSA1498)

The Fete (1970)
Residents hold a fete on the Brandon Estate green featuring egg and spoon races, dancing displays and ‘knock down the can’. REF: LHLDVD77 (LSA1499)

Brandon Summer Fete (1971)
Residents hold a fete on the Brandon Estate green. REF: LHLDVD77 (LSA1503)

Cine Equipment
An instructional film, showing different types of camera and film.
REF: LHLDVD75 (LSA1487)
Other films in the collection

**5 Bob: Herbert Stead and the Old Age Pension**
A short film about one of the leaders of the first ever state pension
REF: LHLDDVD146 / 6 mins

**A London Borough** (1950)
A film for Camberwell Golden Jubilee showing the evolution of local government in Camberwell using actors in a mock trial. REF: LHLDDVD 85 (or 3) / 30 mins

**A Pool of Information** (1993)
Former members and staff of the Pioneer Health Centre in Peckham discuss their experiences of ‘The Peckham Experiment’ a medical research project by Dr Innes Pearse and George Scott into wellbeing. REF: LHLDDVD14 (LSA4412) / 35 mins Ask staff for the booklet to accompany this film, ref: OFFICE 613.PEC

**A Tribute to Barry Albin-Dyer** (2015)
A film made in memory to Barry Albin-Dyer OBE, who ran the respected family owned funeral business Albin and Sons. REF: LHLDDVD157 / 39 mins 23 secs

**A Visit to Peek Frean and Co’s Biscuit Works** (1906)
Rare film made by Cricks and Sharp of the famous biscuit factory that was based in Clement’s Road, Bermondsey.
REF: LHLDDVD169/170 / 35 mins / silent

**Alexandra Day in Peckham** (1913)
Peckham flower sellers out in streets selling fake roses for fundraising event for Alexandra rose Day. Featuring Rye Lane and Peckham Hippodrome.
REF: LHLDDVD204 / 5 mins / silent

**Arments: The First Hundred Years** (2014)
A film about the well loved pie-and-mash shop on Westmoreland Road, Walworth.
REF: LHLDDVD135 / 64 mins

**BBC London News [Dr Alfred Salter statue]** (2011)
Short news item on the theft of the bronze statue that was situated near Bermondsey Wall.
REF: LHLDDVD228 / 2 mins 29 secs
Bermondsey Street: a London Story (2016)
A feature length film produced by local residents Julie and Adam Bates who celebrate the street’s unique character and history with the help of local residents and business owners.
REF: LHLDVD199 / 83 mins

Bermondsey Wall: a Time and Talents Film (c.1932)
A film showing some scenes of everyday life in Bermondsey and children taking part in activities organised by the charity, Time and Talents, which is still going strong today.
REF: LHLDVD33 / 18 mins / silent

Blackbirds [Grandchildren of the Blitz] (2011)
A film of the play using an intergenerational cast combining personal testimony to remember the stories of the Blitz. REF: LHLDVD166 / 64 mins

Bombed Out (1945)
Amateur footage of wartime London. REF: LHLDVD203 / 12 mins 48 secs / silent

Borough High Street (1985)
Documentary film about this historical street. Part of the ‘Streets of London’ series by ITV.
REF: LHLDVD68 / 25 mins

Off-air copy of Channel 4 TV programme looking at a selection of the best architecturally designed buildings in the UK as voted for. Featuring Peckham Library. REF: LHLDVD175 / 60 mins

Building the Best: ep. 8 Peckham Library (2001)
A film for Discovery Home and Leisure Channel exploring the architecture and building of Peckham Library featuring interviews with Sterling Prize winner, Will Allsop. REF: LHLDVD188 / 24 mins 8 secs

Camberwell Road (c. Early 1960s)
A short film shot on 8mm, scanning Camberwell Road from south to north, featuring the Regal Cinema and Emmanuel Church. REF: LHLDVD154 / 1 min 19 secs / silent

Carnaval de Pueblo (demo)
One of the first films of the Carnaval del Pueblo which became a regular and popular fixture on Southwark’s festival calendar. Featuring a procession along Walworth Road and the festival at Burgess Park. REF: LHLDVD179 / 17 mins

Carnaval del Pueblo (2001)
A film of the carnival in Burgess Park that was once a regular event on the Southwark festival calendar. Featuring dancers, performers and carnival revellers. REF: LHLDVD182 / 1 hr 2 mins.
Charming Southwark (2011)
A film made by the Cuming Museum’s Youth Panel exploring the role of charms and superstitions.
REF: LHLDVD94 / 5 mins

Childhood Days (1929)
The 1920s equivalent of Little Miss Congeniality is crowned in Walworth, Southwark.
REF: LHLDVD109 / 45 secs / silent

Clubland (2012)
A film by Michael Holland about Walworth Methodist Church’s recreational club which was started by the late Reverend James Butterworth. Includes interviews with people who used the club. REF: LHLDVD140 / approx.60 mins

Clubland Activities of the 1950s and 60s
Rare film footage shot on 16mm by Rev. Butterworth’s wife featuring some of the various activities undertaken by the young people who attended Clubland in Walworth including Sports day in Burgess Park. REF: LHLDVD162 / 23 mins / silent

Clubland Original Films 1925-1976
A selection of films showing the activities of Clubland throughout this period, compiled by Rev. James Butterworth’s family. REF: LHLDVD134 / 42 mins

Coast (2006)
This programme from the BBC series looks at the River Thames and estuary and features interviews with former residents who used the Thames area around the docks as a beach.
REF: LHLDVD65

Crossbones (date unknown)
A short film with locals who recall anecdotes about burial site on Red Cross Way site and includes an interview with the late Stephen Humphrey, a former Southwark historian. REF: LHLDVD192 / 4 mins 48 secs

Dilwihs: a village in the city (1967)
A film celebrating the history of Dulwich in its 1000th year.
REF: LHLDVD196 / 22 ins 37 secs

Divided by Race: United in War and Peace (2013)
A documentary about race relations in Britain during and after the 2nd World War featuring 14 testimonies of the surviving veterans including West Indian and African women and men who volunteered to join the war effort. REF: LHLDVD129 / 90 mins
**Dulwich tollgate (c.1960s)**
A short film (from 8mm) showing the Dulwich tollgate, an exterior view of Dulwich gallery and environs. REF: LHLDVD78 (LSA1507) / 2 mins / silent

**Eid Celebration at Harper Road (1990)**
General views of children and families celebrating the religious festival of Eid at Harper Road Library. REF: LHLDVD5 (LSA4437) / 47 mins

**Elephant and Castle Regeneration Project (2001)**
A film looking at the proposals and objections to Elephant and Castle’s proposed redevelopment. Featuring key interviews with Stephanie Elys, Leader of the council, Maggie Ambrose, chair of Heygate Tenants & Residents Association, Stephen Lancashire, cabinet holder for Regeneration & Economic Development and tenants AGM. REF: LHLDVD181 / 14 mins 40 secs

**Events of 1951**
A film of the local and international activities of the Boy Scouts featuring opening of new HQ on Jamaica Road for Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Scouts. REF: LHLDVD133 / 29 mins / silent

**Evidence of Health: The Peckham Experiment (1998)**
A film about a unique purpose built health research centre in Peckham called the Pioneer Health Centre where families interacted with each around social activities whilst being observed and medically checked. REF: LHLDVD10 (LSA4403) / 32 mins. Ask staff for the booklet to accompany this film, ref: OFFICE 613.PEC

**Faraday Ward, May 2nd Election, 2002**
Campaign video featuring the views of 6 tenant activists standing as independents in the May 2nd local elections. REF: LHLDVD92 (LSA4392) / 11 mins

**Films of the Walworth Area – Christmas 1969**
Mostly top shot views over Walworth, featuring the Surrey Tabernacle on Wansey Street. REF: LHLDVD18 (LSA4372) / 9 mins / silent

**Get Webwise: Libraries, the issues (2000)**
The role that libraries play in promoting and helping the public get access to the worldwide web. REF: LHLDVD183 / 59mins

**Great British Story: London’s Docklands (2012)**
Presenter Peter Snow takes a journey around the Docklands and looks at its history over the centuries including how Greenland Dock became model for large docklands across east London. REF: LHLDVD149 / 30 mins

**Growing up in Southwark (2011)**
This DVD features three short films made by the Cuming Museum’s Youth Panel: ‘How to Use Southwark Local History Library and Archive’; ‘Community Life in Southwark’ looks at what community means, particularly to the locals and residents who grew up on the Brandon Estate and ‘Passport to the Future’ looks at how education in Southwark has changed. REF: LHLDVD125 / 27 mins 30 secs
Hayes Wharf, c.1968
A rare view of life on the docks (possibly filmed at Mark Browns Wharf), featuring dockers loading and unloading, ships, barges and high angle views of Walworth and Lambeth.
REF: LHLDVD25 (LSA4401) / 7 mins / silent

Health Before the NHS: The Road to Recovery (2013)
BBC Documentary looking at the health service in Britain before the NHS, featuring the work of the Bermondsey Borough Council. REF: LHLDVD147 / 60 mins

Help! [fostering Black children] [date unknown, c.1980s]
A short film about fostering Black children featuring a foster carer talking about the experiences she has had fostering. Off air broadcast. REF: LHLDVD1 / 6 mins 44 secs

Her Majesty the Queen at Southwark Cathedral (1988)
Copy of live broadcast of the Queen officially opening the Chapterhouse in Southwark Cathedral. REF: LHLDVD4 / 20 mins.

Documentary about the doctor from Jamaica who studied, lived and worked in Peckham and was the co-founder of the League of Coloured Peoples.
REF: LHLDVD40 / 28 mins 30 secs

Home is Where the Heart Is (2013)
3 films of Wolverton block on the Aylesbury Estate in Walworth filmed as they were derelict and just before demolition in 2014, by local historian Darren Lock. REF: LHLDVD173 / 36 mins

Horselydown to the Angel (2009)
A film looking at the ancient area of Horselydown along the Thames from Tooley Street to Dockhead.
REF: LHLDVD102 / 24 mins 30 secs

International Patrol Camp (1955 or 1951)
Film of Bermondsey scouts on parade and in the camp with scouts from around the world.
REF: LHLDVD39 (LSA1484) / 9 mins / silent

In the Service of Life (1956)
A film by The South London Film Society about the activities of the Union of girls’ Schools for Social Service in Peckham made for their Diamond Jubilee Celebrations at the Royal Festival Hall on 9th May 1956. REF: LHLDVD50 / 10 mins

Into the 20th Century (1984)
A film about the care of children before and after the Children Act of 1908 and the emergence of the work of the charity, Barnardo’s. REF: LHLDVD12 / 21 mins
It’s Our Park: A film about Southwark Park in the summer of 2014
REF: LHLDVD136 / 34 mins

Jobs for a Future (date unknown, circa 1980s)
Focusing on two young people – Pat and Kevin – this film looks at how Southwark’s 26,000 unemployed are looking for work in a borough that that has the highest density of unemployed in Britain. REF: LHLDVD89 (LSA4424) / 9 mins 30 secs

John Harvard (2001)
An educational DVD telling the story of John Harvard who was born in Southwark and founded Harvard College, Massachusetts through part re-enactment and narration and historical photos. REF: LHLDVD49 / 11 mins

Jubilee Night River Pageant (1977)
Night time flotilla of decorated boats, steam engines and ships along the Thames to mark the Queen’s Silver Jubilee. REF: LHLDVD73 (LSA1482) / 3 mins / silent

Larry and Janet Move Out (2015)
A film about Larry and Janet Colfer moving out of their council home on the Heygate Estate in Elephant and Castle, London, in which have lived in for 37 years.
REF: LHLDVD164 / 31 mins 49 secs

Leathermarket Gardens (1958)
A BBC news item on the opening of Leathermarket Gardens in Bermondsey on a snowy 23 January 1958 featuring Bermondsey children playing on the slides. REF: LHLDVD237 / 1 min 36 secs

Life Afloat (2016)
A documentary that explores the history of houseboat living on London’s Tidal Thames. REF: LHLDVD226 / 53 mins 30 secs

London A Social Centre (1928)
The future King and Queen Mother visit the Browning Settlement in Walworth.
REF: LHLDVD106 / 1 min 20 secs / silent

London Borough (1953)
A film for the Camberwell golden Jubilee showing the evolution of local government and the importance of paying local taxes using actors in a mock trial. REF: LHLDVD85 / 29 mins

London Bridge (1989)
A film about the history of London Bridge beginning with the ‘Old Bridge’ at around 1176 including fascinating snippets of history.
REF: LHLDVD63 / 16 mins
Feature length film dating from the 1920s to the 1980s showing the working River Thames featuring Greenland Dock, Surrey Commercial Docks, Canada Dock, Swing and life bridges.
REF:LHLDVD32 / 55 mins

Looking for Sierra Leone (2011)
A film made by a group of young film makers with the South London Gallery to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Sierra Leone’s Independence. The Sierra Leonean community of Southwark discusses their history, politics and culture.
REF: LHLDVD127 / 23 mins 25 secs. Ask staff for the leaflet and poster to accompany this film

Loyalty and Service (1998)
A look at the life the late Reverend Jimmy Butterworth and the contribution he made to Walworth and his establishment of Clubland which was opened by Queen Mary in 1939.
REF: LHLDVD13 (LSA4406) / 19 mins 30 secs

Melodramatic Elephant at Walworth Street Festivals (2017)
A slideshow of images from Walworth's festivals. REF: LHLDVD221 / 7 mins 39 secs

Melodramatic Elephant in the Haunted Castle (2017)
Film of the play held at the Coronet Cinema in Elephant and Castle on 8th November 2017 telling the story of the theatre that once stood on the same site from the experience of the Marie Henderson who managed the theatre from 1875 to 1880. Followed by footage of the last night at the Coronet 1st January 2018. REF: LHLDVD222 / 1hr 15 mins

Metropolitan Fire Brigade Turn-Out (1899)
Fire engines leaving the station at Southwark Bridge Road. REF: LHLDVD110 / 1 min / silent

Millwall Black and White: a Portrait From The Terraces (2018)
A film looking back over the past 50 years of the clubs history and its association with racism. REF: LHLDVD216 / 59 mins 51 secs

This DVD contains five individual films which explore the history of Islam in Southwark and the role of its mosques within their communities. REF: LHLDVD113 / 2 hrs

My Grandfather and the First World War (The Life of James Hale of Walworth & Kennington in the First World War and the Queen’s Territorials, 1998)
Tape-slide presentation including archive footage with voice over and music about the life of James Hale (born 1897) who served in the 1/24th (The Queens) Battalion, The London Regiment.
REF: LHLDVD22 (LSA4386) / 29 mins
My Little Grey Home in the West (1968)
An intimate portrait of the residents of Newington Lodge, a former GLC institution for the homeless and elderly and previously the site of the Newington Workhouse. REF: LHLDVD161 / 16 mins

Not Our Problem (1984)
The experience of being black and living in Southwark. REF: LHLDVD20 (LSA4378) / 26 mins

Old Kent Road (1985)
Nostalgic film looking at the way of life on this famous road made by BBC for their Arena series. REF: LHLDVD44 / 60 mins

Old Ways New Ways (1988)
A film by Sands Films from the viewpoint of the employees of the once famous biscuit factory, Peek Freans, just before its closure in 1988. REF: LHLDVD169 and 171

Open Space: Peter Tatchell and the Battle for Bermondsey (The Story of the Bermondsey bi-election, 1983)
A film by the BBC Community Programme Unit which explores one of the most bitter UK election campaigns during which Labour candidate Peter Tatchell was ridiculed and attacked because of his sexuality. REF: LHLDVD64 / 30 mins 31 secs

Our School and Hard Times (1977)
This documentary broadcast on Thames Television in 1977 looks at the issues facing the education system as it was using the comprehensive school, Archbishop Michael Ramsey which was based in Camberwell, as an example. REF: LHLDVD145 / 60 mins

Our Town (c.1950s)
General views of Rotherhithe and Bermondsey, including the docks, Bermondsey Wall, Cherry Garden Pier, Scout House, Norwegian Church, Spread Eagle & Crown with intertitles. REF: LHLDVD84 (LSA1483) / 5 mins / silent

Newsroom South East: Peckham (2000)
BBC’s daily local news programme. This programme looks at stereotypes and asks whether Peckham deserves it’s “dodgy Del-boy reputation”. REF: LHLDVD66 / 24 mins
**Passport to Pimlico** (1949)
Feature length comedy made by Ealing Studios in 1949 about the discovery of documents and treasure that helped part of Pimlico to be exempt from rationing after WW2 and the camaraderie that was a feature of wartime Britain. Features many locations around Bermondsey and Rotherhithe docks. REF: LHLDVD48 / 84 mins

**Peckham Experiment: An Ecological Approach to Health** [date unknown]
A film slideshow which examines the legacy of the Peckham Experiment and how its ecological principles could be used to solve the problems that technology and science have created in the late twentieth century. REF: LHLDVD9 (LSA4439) / 19 mins

Short film made by young people aged 8 to 13 promoting the varied ways in which Peckham Rye Park is used. REF: LHLDVD207 / 8 mins 25 secs

**Peckham Travellers** (2010)
A selection of films focusing on different aspects of traveller life from the Southwark Traveller’s viewpoint. REF: LHLDVD120 / 90 mins

**Power Into Art** (2000)
A film about the making of Tate Gallery on Bankside. REF:LHLDVD58

**Rebates** (1981)
A short film commissioned by Southwark Council that explores the reason why so many residents are not claiming rent rebates that they are entitled to. LHLDVD90 (LSA4409) / 10 mins

**Resources Discovered** (1954)
The importance of public libraries to industry. REF: LHLDVD37 (LSA1480) / 10 mins

**St Olave’s on Horselydown** (1962)
A film about the prominent boys’ grammar school which was previously situated near Tower Bridge. REF: LHLDVD36 (LSA1477) / 41 mins

**Save the Rose** (1989)
This film is a crusade to save the original site of the Rose Theatre in Bankside from redevelopment and keep it open to the public as an historic monument. The film is introduced by Dustin Hoffman and presented by James Fox and features interviews with actors and notable figures from the arts. REF: LHLDVD23 / 15 mins.

**Southwark Can Deliver** (1989)
Ex-leader of the Council, Anne Matthews, presents Southwark Council’s response to the government cutbacks showing how they intend to more competitive whilst improving service delivery. REF: LHLDVD86 (LSA4411) / 21 mins
South of the River (1964)
A BBC documentary portrayal of working class life and culture in and around the Old Kent Road, Bermondsey and Southwark. REF: LHLDVD144 / 44 mins 33 secs

Southwark Council Budget (The Way Forward) (1988)
A film commissioned by Southwark Council showing how they intend to protect the borough from cuts in government funding. REF: LHLDVD87 (LSA4417) / 14 mins

Southwark For Jesus (2013)
A film that promotes the work of the organization Southwark For Jesus and looks at the different ways in which it helps in the borough. REF: LHLDVD112 / 9 mins 51 secs

A look at how people power affects the planning of housing and environment in the Thameside area of Southwark. REF: LHLDVD74 (LSA4440) / 20 mins

Southwark’s Pride (1981)
A film about how Southwark Council has developed the Surrey Docks. REF: LHLDVD88 (LSA4422) / 19½ mins. Ask staff for the booklet to accompany this film, ref: 711.3132

Southwark Show 1999
A Compilation of musical acts on stage at Burgess Park including Ultra Nate, Rozalla, Phoebe One, DBA, Ideal, Steve Edwards, Marvin and Tamara, Chris Phillips, Micky Simms. REF: LHLDVD180 / 33 mins 15 secs

Southwark Strategy for Thameside (late 60s/70s)
How plans are made for development and regeneration in Southwark, including the views of tenants. REF: LHLDVD38 (LSA1586) / 16 mins 30secs

The following Splash films are musical performances by hundreds of Southwark’s primary school children under the musical direction of composers Laura Howe and Ross Power for It’s All About the Music and Southwark Music Service and Hub:

Splash 2015! The Love Architects and the Fallen City of Arcadia
A musical performance by over 500 Southwark School children at South Bank Centre under the musical direction of composers Laura Howe and Ross Power recreating a "blueprint to rebuild the fallen city of Arcadia through singing, dance, instrumental performance, art and design". REF: LHLDVD232 / 1hr 8 mins

Splash 2016! Shakespearia
A musical performance celebrating 400 years of Shakespeare's work by using some of his well-known quotations and fusing these with the genre of electronic dance music and street dance. REF: LHLDVD233 / 50 mins 39 secs

Splash 2017! How High the Moon
Music show exploring the characters of the various planets of our solar system as perceived by ancient mythology and religions across the globe and forms the basis of our fable of jealousy, rivalry and in the end, love between the Sun and Moon. REF: LHLDVD234 / 57 mins 54 secs
**Splash 2018! Anthology – evening performance** [at the Southbank Centre]
A film showing the last 10 years of work by the Southwark Music Hub and It's All About the Music featuring musical performances by school children from Southwark's primary schools.
REF: LHLDVD235 / 39 mins 59 secs

**Spring Festival 2005 (West Bermondsey Community Forum)**
A film presented by Katie Nichols highlighting the work of the festival in bringing the community together.  REF: LHLDVD200 / 11 mins 20 secs

**The Ballet of Change** [London Bridge] (2007)
The 4th film in a series of short films on famous London places is about the history of London Bridge using archive footage and specially composed music.  REF: LHLDVD197

**The Bones Go Last: The Seven Ages of Austin Osman Spare** (2010)
A documentary about the artist who lived in Kennington and Walworth.
REF: LHLDVD128 / 33 mins

**The Borough Walk** [date unknown]
A film that walks through a potted history of the Borough’s famous landmarks.
REF: LHLDVD195 / 40 mins 50 secs

**The Castle** (2001)
A film made by the Kingswood Young People Project about Kingswood Library in Dulwich, London.
REF: LHLDVD21 (LSA4373) / 10 mins

**The Centre** (1947)
A drama/documentary which looks at the experience of a couple and their son as they sign up with the Pioneer Health Centre in Peckham. Featuring founders George Scott Williamson and Innes Hope Pearse.  REF: LHLDVD202 / 21 mins

**The Changing Face of Camberwell** (1963)
The post-war architecture of the London Borough of Camberwell.
REF: LHLDVD95 / 30 mins (also available at the BFI Mediatheque)

**The Elephant Never Forgets** (2006)
Elderly residents reminisce about the Elephant and Castle area, featuring old photos.
REF: LHLDVD17 (LSA4380) / 22 mins

**The Epic of Joey** (1924)
Follow that monkey! A pet makes a break for freedom in Camberwell.
REF: LHLDVD107 / 30 secs / silent
BBC programme presented by Peter Snow which looks at the development of this area throughout the centuries, featuring Greenland Dock in Rotherhithe.
REF: LHLDVD149 / 30 mins

Michael Collins presents a history of the council house which at its height in the mid-1970s provided homes for over a third of the British population. Featuring the Heygate Estate.
REF: LHLDVD229 / 59 mins 40 secs.

*The Guardian of Your Life* (1940)
A War-time film about the importance of using a gas mask. A local government official is invited to a family home to give a talk on how to use a gas mask and keep it well maintained. REF: LHLDVD28 (IWM HOY44) / 26 mins

*The House Detectives: Trinity Church Square* (1998)
This programme in the BBC series that probes the secrets of houses, looks at those in Trinity Church Square. REF: LHLDVD60 / 29 mins

*The North Southwark Current* (1983)
A film about the problems caused by office development in North Southwark, featuring original footage and sound from the Hays Wharf Public meeting on 10th May and views of residents and workers in the area. REF: LHLDVD91 (LSA4441) / 30 mins

*The Peckham Wall* (2018)
A film by artist Tracey Francis which celebrates the portraits of well-known Black Southwark artists that once adorned Peckham Hill Street told by a letter to the photographer.
REF: LHLDVD215 / 2 mins 27 secs

*The People’s Park* (2015)
A potted history about Burgess Park. REF: LHLDVD158 / 5 mins 47 secs

Part two of the BBC’s first series looks at how this street of grand Georgian houses has survived the inner city sprawl. Features interviews with residents past and present.
REF: LHLDVD142 / 59 mins

The changing residential landscape of this road since Booth’s survey of London, 1889.
REF: LHLDVD141 / 59 mins
**The Silver Jubilee Walkway** (1977)
An historic walk along the 5 ¼ mile stretch from Leicester Square to St Paul’s Cathedral taking in some of Southwark’s sights to mark the Queen’s Silver Jubilee.
REF: LHLDVD35 (LSA1476) / 30 mins

**The Southwark News Story** (2009)
This film by Michael Holland is the story of the Southwark independent local newspaper which was started in 1987 including interviews with the key players in the newspaper’s history.
REF: LHLDVD105 / 59 mins

**The Spike: a Place of Peace** (circa mid-1980s)
Short history of the former Camberwell Re-settlement Unit for homeless people originally located in Gordon Road. REF: LHLDVD194 / 14 mins 46 Secs

A Michael Holland film about how a group of young graduate artists grew out of the old Surrey Docks to become and important part of the redeveloped dock area. REF: LHLDVD121 / 39 mins

**The Sum of Us All: Bede House, Bermondsey and Rotherhithe 1938-2008** (2008)
The Story of Bede house, a community organisation working in the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe which started as a Christian Settlement in 1938. Featuring one of the last interviews with Richard Carr-Gomm. REF: LHLDVD34 / 59 mins

**The Tallest Tower: Building the Shard** (2012)
Channel 4 documentary about how the iconic building at London Bridge was built.
REF: LHLDVD148 / 48 mins.

**The Toogood Family in Southwark Park** (c.1960s)
Amateur film of a family having fun in Southwark park. REF: LHLDVD206 / 1 min 51 secs / silent

**The Tower** (2012)
A short film about the site in Peckham where the once famous Tower Cinema stood.
REF: LHLDVD122 / 4 mins 32 secs.

**Them Days Are Gone** (2006)
The story of the Southwark docks told by former dock workers and their families.
REF: LHLDVD104 / 17 mins 30 secs
Tooley Street
A film by Bermondsey local historians Michael Holland and Deborah Gosling which looks at the rich history of this street and includes many of the well-known sites, including HMS Belfast and Tower Bridge as well as the origins of St Olaf House, Battlebridge Lane and English Grounds.
REF: LHLDVD103 / 18 mins

Tougher Than Your Average Kid (1979)
A television documentary which looks at the culture of boxing from the viewpoint of three young local boys as they train and fight in tournaments. Featuring local Downside Fisher and Peckham boxing clubs. REF: LHLDVD210 / 49 mins 30 secs

Two Bob’s Worth of Trouble (1961)
A short fictional film made by English teacher Simon Clements and his third year class at Walworth School during the academic year of 1961/2. REF: LHLDVD131 / 20 mins

Undercover Boss (2013)
The Channel 4 series where Top executives go undercover to ensure their companies operating well: Chief Exec of Southwark Council, Eleanor Kelly goes undercover as a trainee housing officer. REF: LHLDVD168 / 48 mins

Untold London (2005)
A short film by BBC London highlighting the history of the area around London Bridge and Southbank presented by two street performers. REF: LHLDVD220 / 3 mins

Unearthing Elephant (2017)
An award winning documentary about the Elephant and Castle Shopping Centre which looks at the unique way the centre has evolved and the micro businesses that have developed to form a significant part of the community. REF: LHLDVD211 / 22 mins 51 secs

Up the Elephant (2002)
A film by Julie Speechley whilst at the National Film and Television School about the changing landscape of the Elephant and Castle. REF: LHLDVD19 / 27 mins

Utopia London (2010)
Documentary exploring the recent architectural history of London, featuring Dawson’s Heights housing estate in East Dulwich.
REF: LHLDVD143 / 1 hour, 22 min

Visit to Southwark of Her Majesty the Queen (9th June 1977)
Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip visit the Surrey Docks, where they are entertained by Southwark Orchestra and Choir, Southwark’s Sea Cadets, locals dressed costume and people that have made Southwark and England famous.
REF: LHLDVD79 / 9 mins. Ask staff for the leaflet which accompanies this film, ref: 394.43
Ville de Sceaux (1955)
A visit to Sceaux in the south of Paris by the South London Film Society to mark the twinning of the Camberwell Metropolitan Borough with Sceaux. The film compares and contrasts the two suburbs.
REF: LHLDVD6 / 11 mins

Walkways (2012)
A series of urban performed walks produced with members of the Southwark Community.
REF: LHLDVD138 / 37 min

Walkways in the Sky (1985)
The problems faced by Southwark residents particularly those on housing estates and those working in the council’s housing department.
REF: LHLDVD15 (LSA4387) / 25 mins
Also available: Treatment and Outline of Script, ask a member of staff for document ref: Audio/Visual file 1, section: ‘info on film content’

Walworth compilation (a compilation of films on Walworth)
A selection of films on or about the area of Walworth in the London Borough of Southwark. REF: LHLDVD160 / 55 mins

Walworth Road (c.1960s)
General views of people and traffic on Walworth, featuring Herbert Morrison House.
REF: LHLDVD16 (LSA4376) / 1½ mins / silent

We Was All One (1972)
An award winning documentary by Thames Television exploring the culture of south east London’s working class, especially around Bermondsey and examines the changing culture and community spirit within the environment of redevelopment. REF: LHLDVD30 / 48 mins 50 secs.

Who Do You Think You Are? Zoe Wanamaker (2009)
A BBC programme tracing the ancestry of the actor whose father, Sam Wanamaker was instrumental in the re-establishment of the The Globe Theatre. REF: LHLDVD52 / 59 mins

Your Shout: Peckham (1999)
A Local Peckham publican presents her view against Peckham’s bad reputation.
REF: LHLDVD56 / 2 mins
THE AUDIO COLLECTION

A selection of local oral history recordings are available for you to listen to in the reading room. Please ask for a disc and headphones at the desk.

Disc 1

Track 18: Mary Boast interviews Dr Innes Pearse, (b. 1889) 01:21:24
Dr Innes Pearse founded the Peckham Pioneer Health Centre in 1926 with her Husband, Dr George Scott Williamson. This recording was made at Dr Pearse’s home in Sussex in 1976. (summary available)

Track 49: Mr Sam King (b.1926, Jamaica) 00:42:40
Former Mayor of Southwark, Sam King recalls his experiences in Britain during World War II and his return to the UK in 1948 on the SS Empire Windrush. He discusses Jamaican history and culture and the British Empire. (summary available)

Track 98: Mr Payne (b.1909, Peckham) and Miss Rita Mayer (b.1932, Peckham) 00:32:39
Two local residents recall memories of Dulwich from the 1920s onwards. (summary available)

Track 101: Mr Hebbes (b. 25.10.1935) 00:21:12
Recollections of East Dulwich and Peckham in wartime and evacuation to Essex. (summary available)

Track 102: Mrs Madeline Ridgeway Hawkyard (b.28.05.1920) 00:30:51
Shops and school life in East Dulwich in the 1930s (summary available)

Track 108: Mr Kail (b.13.07.1898) 00:16:46
A description of Edwardian Dulwich and its agricultural history. Mr Kail also remembers the crowds forming in the village to watch Halley’s comet in 1910. (summary available)

Track 109: Mr Hawkins 00:22:24
Memories of life in Lordship Lane

Track 112: Mrs Marjorie V. Payne (b.1911 Borough of Kingston) 00:47:22
Living at 408 Lordship Lane, Tilling buses, Dulwich parliament and speaker's corner, the 1918 armistice, the Depression, and the Crystal Palace fire.
Disc 2

Track 113: Mr Kail, Mrs Frewin, Mrs Hawkyard 00:12:22
Memories of the local shops in East Dulwich.

Track 114: Mr McFarlane, (b.1911 Scotland) 00:03:25
Recollections of political open air meetings in Camberwell Peckham and Dulwich. These included the Dulwich branch of the British Union of Fascists, including William Joyce (Lord Haw-Haw) and their opposition, the Young Communist League and the Independent Labour Party. (summary available)

Track 115: Mrs Joint (b.1925) 00:55:26
Memories of being a teenage ARP warden, attending James Allen’s Girls School, social activities in Dulwich and staying at Pond House during World War II. (summary available)

Track 116: Florence Kail (b.28.9.26) 00:30:14
Memories of Mary Magdalene School, Peckham, the Girls’ Training Corps and VE day celebrations in central London and Peckham. (summary available)

Track 117: Mrs Frewin 01:00:02
School in Bermondsey, housewifery, learning the 3R’s, shopping in Peckham Rye, Boat Race Day and local transport.

Track 118: Miss Margaret Belville (b.06.07.1927, London) 00:16:56
memories of May Day celebrations, the housewifery centre, early days of World War II and domestic servants in houses.

Track 119: Mr Robbins 00:11:25
Recollections of the local master butcher, North Cross Road and Graves's laundry.

Track 120: Mr Hebbes, (b.25.10.1935) 00:20:33
St John's School and Goodrich, an Anderson shelter in Zenoria Street, Trams, the pawnbrokers agent, the POW camp, North Cross Road, the bombing of the Co-op, cinema and dancing.

Track 121: Miss M Charsley (b.1916 East Dulwich) 00:28:04
Lordship lane in the Blitz and the local shops

Track 122: Mrs Irene M. Martin (b.04.05.1937) 00:18:51
A description of the changes Dulwich has experienced since World War II, life during the Blitz and shops in the area. (summary available)
OTHER FILM SOURCES

A selection of films from Southwark Local History Library and Archive’s film collection is available to view free of charge via London’s Screen Archive’s online catalogue at www.londonsscreenarchives.org.uk and via their page on YouTube.

Southwark-related films are available to view free of charge in person at the British Film Institute’s Mediatheque. BFI Southbank, Belvedere Road, London, SE1 8XT. www.bfi.org.uk.

A selection of films from Southwark Local History Library and Archive’s film collection is available to view on The BFI Player. The BFI Player is on-demand service showing home grown and international films, many free to view. http://player.bfi.org.uk/.

British Pathé on YouTube has over 85,000 films of historical interest. There are many old Southwark-related films which can be accessed at: www.youtube.com/user/britishpathe.

Keep in touch with Southwark Local History Library and Archive

T: 020 7525 0232, E: local.history.library@southwark.gov.uk

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